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(54) Title: METHOD OF AND KIT FOR ASSESSING RESPONSIVENESS OF CANCER PATIENTS TO ANTIFOLATE CHEMOTHERAPY

(57) Abstract: A method for the assessment of the responsiveness of a cancer patient to antifolate-containing chemotherapy, the method is effected by searching for a mutation or mutations in a reduced folate carrier (RFC) gene in cells derived from the patient.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : C07H 21/04; C12P 19/34; C12Q 1/48, 1/68; G01N 27/26  
US CL : 204/450; 435/6, 15, 91.2; 535/24.31, 24.33, 23.5

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
U.S. : 204/450; 435/6, 15, 91.2; 535/24.31, 24.33, 23.5

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
Please See Continuation Sheet

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GUO, W et al. Mechanisms of methotrexate resistance in osteosarcoma. Clinical Cancer Research. MArch 1999, vol. 5, pp. 621-627; see entire document, but especially page 21, column 2 and page 624, Table 3.	1, 4, 12-14, and 23
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Y		1, 3-6, and 10-35
X	JANSEN, G, et al. A structurally altered human reduced folate carrier with increased folic acid transport mediates a novel mechanism of antifolate resistance. Journal of Biological Chemistry. 13 November 1998, Vol. 273, No. 46, pp. 30189-30198; see entire document, but especially page 30190, column 1, page 30191, column 1, and page 30194,	1, 4, 10-14, and 16-23
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Y		1, 3-6, and 10-35
Y	ROY, K, et al. A single amino acid difference within the folate transporter encoded by the murine RFC-1 gene selectively alters its interaction with folate analogues. Journal of	1, 5, 6, and 10-35
Y	TAKEMURA, Y, et al. Biological activity and intracellular metabolism of ZD1694 in human leukemia cell lines with different resistance mechanisms to antifolate drugs. Japanese Journal of Cancer Research. July 1996, vol. 87, pp. 773-780; especially page 773, columns 1-2.	1, 3-6, and 10-35

<input type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	See patent family annex.
* Special categories of cited documents:		"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date		"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)		"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means			
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed			
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report	
18 July 2001 (18.07.2001)		<b>28 AUG 2001</b>	
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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/IL01/00212

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)**

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claim Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claim Nos.: 2 and 7-9 because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:  
Enter reason
  
3.  Claim Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest     The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
                       No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/IL01/00212

**C ntinuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:**

MEDLINE, CANCERLIT, BIOSIS, EMBASE, USPATFULL: reduced folate carrier-1 (RFC-1) gene, DHFR, FPGS, GARTF, TS, MDR1, MRP1, mutation, familial predisposition, cancer, leukemia, folate transport, methotrexate resistance, antifolate therapy, responsiveness, resistance, susceptibility, SSCP, PCR, sequencing